

# HazCom

## What You Need To Know



# The HazCom Standard

- **Gives you the right to know about:**
  - **Chemicals that are used in your workplace**
  - **Possible dangers you could be exposed to**
  - **How to protect you and others**



# Hazardous Chemical

- A hazardous chemical is any chemical which is classified as a:
  - Physical hazard
  - Health hazard
  - Simple asphyxiant
  - Combustible dust
  - Pyrophoric gas
  - Hazard not otherwise classified

# Physical Hazards

- Physical hazards are chemicals that can cause:
  - Fire
  - Explosion
  - Violent reaction



# Health Hazards

- Health hazards are chemicals that are harmful to your health and can cause:
  - Short-term (acute) health problems
  - Long term (chronic) health problems



# **Health Hazards, continued...**

- **OSHA considers a health hazard to be any chemical which:**
  - Is toxic
  - Is corrosive to the skin or eyes
  - Is a respiratory sensitizer
  - May cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive issues
  - Attacks specific organs
  - Is harmful or deadly when inhaled

# Five Employer Requirements

**1. Create a hazardous chemical inventory**

**2. Ensure each chemical has a GHS-style safety data sheet**

**3. Ensure each chemical container is properly labeled**

**4. Create and implement an employee training program**

**5. Develop a written HazCom program**

# The HazCom Chain

**HazCom  
starts at  
the  
chemical  
manufactu  
ring plant:**

- **Chemists classify and categorize the chemical**
- **Safety data sheets and labels are created**
- **Safety data sheets and labels are passed along to each company and person who handles the chemical**

# 1. Chemical Inventory

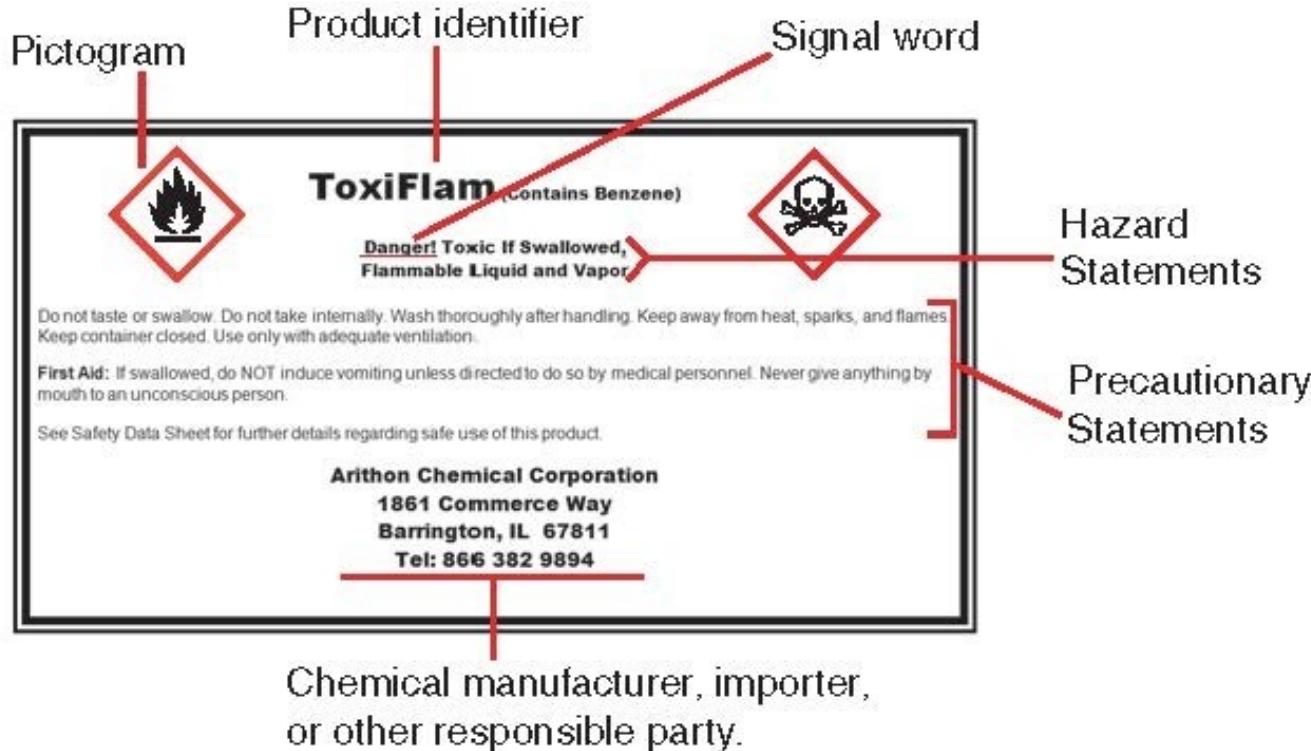
- When a chemical arrives at your company, hazard information is passed along with it.
- This information is added to your company's chemical inventory.
- OSHA requires that each company keep an inventory on all hazardous chemicals.



## **2. Safety Data Sheets**

- Explain what you need to know to safely work with a chemical
- Must have the GHS-specified 16 section format
- Must include certain types of information in each section
- Help ensure that employers and employees understand the chemical
- Must be readily accessible to employees in the work area during each work shift

# 3. Labels



# Pictograms

## Globally Harmonized System Pictograms



Flame Over Circle

- Oxidizers



Flame

- Flammables
- Self Reactives
- Pyrophorics
- Self-Heating
- Emits Flammable Gas
- Organic Peroxides



Exploding Bomb

- Explosives
- Self Reactives
- Organic Peroxides



Skull and Crossbones

- Acute Toxicity (severe)



Corrosives

- Corrosives



Gas Cylinder

- Gases Under Pressure



Health Hazard

- Carcinogen
- Respiratory Sensitizer
- Reproductive Toxicity
- Target Organ Toxicity
- Mutagenicity
- Aspiration Toxicity



Environment

- Acute Aquatic Toxicity
- Chronic Aquatic Toxicity



Exclamation Mark

- Irritant
- Dermal Sensitizer
- Acute Toxicity (harmful)
- Narcotic Effects
- Respiratory Tract Irritant

# Re-Labeling

- Re-labeling can take place when:
  - Your employer chooses to use an OSHA-approved label in your workplace.
  - A large quantity of a chemical is broken down into smaller ones to use in different areas.



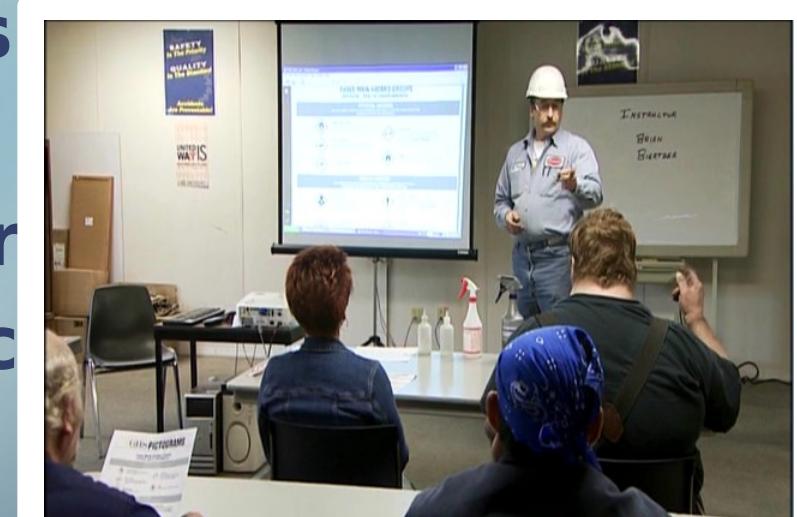
# Re-Labeling, continued...

- **If you ever find a container with no label, or an illegible label, contact your supervisor.**
- **Never use a chemical from an unlabeled container.**



# 4. Training & Information

- Employees must receive training on:
  - HazCom Standard requirements
  - Hazard chemical locations
  - Chemical inventory
  - Safety data sheets
  - Labels
  - Written HazCom pr
  - Specialized chemi



# 5. Written HazCom Program

- **Documents, in detail, your employer's plans for communicating chemical hazards.**
- **You have a right to review the written HazCom plan whenever you want.**



# Staying safe

- **Simple actions you can take to stay safe when working with chemicals:**
  - Remove all jewelry
  - Use eye and face protection
  - After using a chemical, wash your hands
  - Clean and store safety gear properly



# Staying safe, continued...

- Other simple actions:
  - Know where the nearest eyewash station or emergency shower is located
  - Dispose of hazardous chemicals properly
  - Know how to deal with spills and leaks
  - Know how to respond to an emergency

